



The SKYHOOK



HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

www.hcarc.us

March 2011

Toms River, NJ

Program for our March Meeting

This month we will have a presentation on test equipment. Dave Ottenberg, WA2DJN, will be presenting a project he has been working on. The project, building a modern signal tracer, was described in the February, 2011 QST. Dave has constructed a PC board for the circuitry and has it housed in a computer switching box originally used for switching printers from one computer to another. He will be using the signal tracer to trouble shoot one of his transceivers.

Dues are Due

It's that time of year again and our club membership dues are due. This is our largest source of income and we depend on everyone. Please see Larry Puccio, K2QDY, club Treasurer with your dues money.

Dates to Remember

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 3/3 Fred Fanizzo K2KHH
- 3/11 George Waked KB2OQM
- 3/13 Larry Housman W2GIS
- 3/21 Kevin Wagner W2FA
- 3/30 Sarah Punderson (W2QO)



Anniversaries

- 3/18 Nona and Bill AC2F Haldane
- 3/19 Steve and Chris N2WLH Jackson



NEXT MEETING: April 7, 2009
Thursday 7:00PM
Meeting Rm. #1 at Holiday City South
Clubhouse
Mule Rd. at Santiago Drive

The President's Corner By Steve N2WLH



At our February meeting I was enthused with all the suggestions we received pertaining to getting the word out about our club and boosting the membership. Several great suggestions were made and Ed Picciuti W1EAP is up and running with many of them.

January was the month to renew your membership with the club so if you forgot, as we all do at times, Larry is standing by to take you membership dues. We will also be contacting some members by phone as a reminder.

At the February meeting we also filled a couple vacant Committee Chair positions. A special thank you goes out to Dave WA2DJN for taking the "Programs Committee, Carl WA2IQE will continue as Event Food Committee and Murray KD2IN with the Membership Committee.

In keeping with the spirit of Amateur Radio, at the February meeting there was a presentation given on homebrew circuit board construction that is simple and easy to do at home for your next project. Also mentioned were a couple free Internet downloadable schematic and circuit board design programs that will make creating your own board layout easier. The upcoming presentation for the March meeting will be given by our very own Dave Ottenberg WA2DJN on a modern signal tracer he constructed from the February 2011 issue of QST. Bill Haldane AC2F is also working on an upcoming article for the Skyhook that should be very interesting on sound and how it travels. As with all Skyhook articles and club presentations; if you would like them posted on the club's website after they are presented to the club please let me know. Currently we have several past presentations posted there and yours could join them.

As you can see we're getting back to some nice presentations with our club so when you attend the next club meeting bring along a friend. Maybe they will become our next new member and "Ham".

The very best 73,
Steve Jackson N2WLH

A visit with Norm Smith W2PXE

On the Friday after Thanksgiving in 1941, Norman Smith, home from college, drove down from his home in White Lake NY to Church Street in Manhattan to get tested for his ham license. Since he had been practicing to bring his code sending and copying up to speed and the written part of the test was given from open book the time driving down took longer than the test by far. Upon completing the test, he was then issued a certificate stating that he was a licensed ham but without call letters. Following Pearl Harbor, for security reasons, ham operators were forced off the air. Therefore no call letters were issued.

When in 1942 he volunteered for the Marine Corp he was surprised to learn they were more interested in his ham license than in the 3 years of engineering school he had attended at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

The paper seemed to prove to the Marine Corp a certain amount of technical competency. Norm entered with the rank of Staff Sergeant and was sent to school to become a radar technician.

August 1945 he was discharged and returned to college to finish his 4th year and to earn a degree in electrical engineering. A year later he was issued his call letters, W2PXE, graduated from college and married. Living in Stuyvesant Town, in Manhattan in 1947 he did not get on the air but still wanting to stay tied into short wave radio. He was able to accomplish this by hanging a wire out the apartment window.

After moving to Fair Lawn, NJ in 1951 he learned of and joined a radio club that was meeting in a local firehouse.

At the Western Electric Company, where Norm worked, a radio club set up a station, used mostly during lunch hours. Eventually the club put up a repeater. To take advantage of the repeater, he bought a two meter transceiver.

By this time he was able to experiment with antennas and acquire equipment for 10 through 80 meters, some homebrew, some as kits and finally a Ten Tec Transceiver.

Following a move to Lakewood in 1995 he read an interview with Murray Goldberg printed in the Asbury Park Press. This led to a phone call to Murray and membership in the Holiday City Amateur Radio Club.

Norm has been an active member of the Holiday City Amateur Radio Club and has held the position of Secretary for many years. Although he lives in a restrictive community he has a stealth antenna up and make contacts.

Our VE Crew

Murray KD2IN, Bill AC2F, John K2JWH, Ed W1EAP, Larry K2QDY, Jamie W2QO, John KQ4WR, Stan KB2PD, Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA, Ed WA2NDA, Walter KC2LFD.

CLUB COMMITTEES

Refreshments: Carl WA2IQE, Carl W2PTZ

www.hcarc.us Webmaster: Steve N2WLH, Kevin W2FA

Publicity: Ed W1EAP

Programs: Dave WA2DJN

Sunshine: Ed W1EAP

Event Food Committee: Vacant

Field Day: Larry K2QDY

VE Sessions: Bill AC2F, Larry K2QDY plus the 'crew'

Skyhook: Larry K2QDY

Funds Raising: Vacant

Membership: Murray KD2IN

HOLIDAY CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Toms River, New Jersey

Web Site www.hcarc.us

President	Steve Jackson	N2WLH	732 255-7916
Vice President	Ed Picciuti	W1EAP	732 736-0955
Secretary	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732 237-2421
Treasurer	Larry Puccio	K2QDY	732-349-2950
Executive Board	Don Smith	W2III	732-505-4821
Executive Board	Joe Militano	KC2QLA	732-657-7092
Executive Board	Bill Haldane	AC2F	732-240-7064
Executive Board	Carl Lee	W2PTZ	732-237-2421
W2HC Trustee	Don Smith	W2III	732-505-4821

Membership is open to all interested persons. Ham license is not required.

Dues are \$20.00 per year, payable Jan. 1st. Members joining during the year will have the dues prorated. Family membership \$10.00

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, at 7:00 pm.

Location: Meeting Room #1 in the Holiday City South Clubhouse.

Directions: Go to Mule Rd. and to the corner of Santiago Drive. Turn into Santiago Dr., then into the parking lot in front of the pool. Enter bldg. on right.

The SKYHOOK is published monthly.

Editor and Publisher:

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Toms River, NJ 08757-6445

Ham Radio in your neighborhood... Consider Stealth Antennas

Provided by Steve Jackson

Stealth: stealthy - furtive: marked by quiet and caution and secrecy; taking pains to avoid being observed; "a furtive manner"; "a sneak attack"; "stealthy footsteps ...

Do you live in a neighborhood governed by antenna restrictions and other homeowner covenants. Despite these obstacles you can be active in amateur radio working lots of contests, with plenty of DX and QRO/QRP fun. Many amateur radio operators have the mistaken assumption that the only way you can ever work DX, contests, or even WAS is with beam antennas, linear amplifiers, and huge towers. No doubt having these things do give other Hams the edge but there are others that are very successful using simple wire antennas and a vertical.

Analyze Your Opportunities

If you live in a neighborhood, town, or city with the same types of restrictions; look for your opportunities:

Do you have an attic in your house, condo or apartment? If you can get in it at all you can use it to hang all kinds of antennas. I have found ample space for loops and dipoles. Do you have any trees? Front or back yard trees provide opportunities for resonant dipoles and multi-band verticals. The more trees you have the easier it is to hide bigger antennas.

Read your deed restrictions and covenants. Very few restrict flag poles or bird houses. You can hide multi-band verticals inside both flag poles and bird house poles (purple martins birdhouses have to be mounted pretty high). If you can mount the poles then you can also mount guy wires to keep your poles up. Inverted vee dipoles and slopers look a lot like guy wires!

-Use your house to hide a loop antenna under the eaves. Attach directly or with small standoffs all the way around your house and run feed line in thru a soffit vent. No way to get a loop here? Then hide dipoles under the eaves on different sides of the house. Get two dipoles up at 90 degrees apart and you can work most of the USA with ease.

-Do you have a wood backyard fence? A fence can hide a very low loop, dipole, or doublet. These antennas have a near vertical takeoff angle but will work great for stateside contacts of several hundred miles or more.

What Other Ways Can Be Used?



There are many but here are a couple ideas to get your "idea factory" working on your own stealth antenna ideas. This type of stealth antenna as been around a long time. Can't see the antenna yet? Just take a look at Old Glory waving in the breeze and you will see the antenna. Give up? It's the flagpole! These flagpole vertical antennas are popping up all over the place especially where outside antennas are restricted or forbidden altogether. If you wish to erect any sort of flagpole antenna such as this one then you might want to be sure there aren't restrictions on flagpoles in the area where you wish to erect it. Some homeowner associations have an even more restrictive policy towards communications by stating that no radio emissions are allowed. Of course this would not apply to shortwave listening but it is best to check first.



The owner of this home has built a loop antenna that literally circles his house and no one is the wiser. Take note of the coax exiting the attic vent and running over to the balun which is connected to the wire running around the eaves of the house. Wire loop antennas like this one are quite effect and stealthy as well. Along with this is the fact that loop antennas tend to be broad banded and can readily used on more than one band. Well, about the time you think you have seen it all there comes around something like the antenna to the right of your screen. It is manufactured by Rohn Products and should hide any antennas systems contained within fairly well. Of course it will also tend to make people stop and point thereby drawing more attention to it than one might desire. Nevertheless, it shows what can be done to hide your antenna.

Happenings By Kevin Wagner W2FA

Hamfests

03/12/2011 | Greater Buffalo Spring Hamfest

Location: West Seneca, NY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lancaster Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://gbhamfest.hamgate.net>

Learn More [HAMFEST/CONVENTION](#)

03/26/2011 | Maryland State Convention (Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest)

Location: Timonium, MD

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.gbhc.org>

Learn More

Special Events

03/01/2011 | Peace Corps 50 Year Anniversary

Mar 1-Mar 5, 1600Z-2100Z, KA9NLX, Arlington Heights, IL. Peace Corps ARC and returned PC volunteers throughout the US. 21.375 14.325 7.283 10.133 Olivia possible 2 m . Certificate & QSL. John Paskevicz, 1423 N Ridge Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. Honoring all Peace Corps Volunteers; promoting understanding of other people. ka9nlx@arrl.net

03/03/2011 | 80th anniversary of the adoption of the Star-Spangled Banner as the National Anthem

Mar 3-Mar 5, 1600Z-2300Z, W9SSB, Centralia, IL. Joe McNelly. 145.520 14.250 14.050 7.200. QSL. Joe McNelly, 529 S Sycamore, Centralia, IL 62801. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was recognized for official use by the Navy in 1889 and the President in 1916, and was made the national anthem by a congressional resolution on March 3, 1931 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Star-Spangled_Banner

03/04/2011 | 65th Anniversary of Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College, Fulton, MO

Mar 4-Mar 8, 0001Z-0600Z, W0C, Fulton, MO. Callaway Amateur Radio League LLC. 14.275 14.040. Certificate & QSL. Richard White, 826 Evergreen Dr, Fulton, MO 65251.dmueller55@sbcglobal.net

03/11/2011 | American Red Cross Month Special Event Station Mar 11-Mar 12, 1700Z-2300Z, W8NVY, Muskegon, MI. American Red Cross Serving Muskegon Oceana and Newaygo Counties. 14.260 7.245 147.420 Simplex EchoLink: W8NVY, Node # 349350. Certificate & QSL. Karen Strait, KD8DHJ, 1479 Sullivan Rd, Ravenna, MI 49451. Times are daily. dstlead@arcmon.org orwww.arcmon.org

03/12/2011 | USS Wisconsin in the Wisconsin QSO Party Mar 12-Mar 13, 1500Z-2130Z, N4WIS, Virginia Beach, VA. USS Wisconsin Radio Club. 14.264. QSL. N4WIS-USS Wisconsin Radio Club, PO Box 6682, Virginia Beach, VA 23456.www.n4wis.org

03/19/2011 | Celebrating The Start of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the 108th Birthday of Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge Mar 19, 1400Z-2100Z, W4OT, Vero Beach, FL. Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club. 28.450 21.350 14.240 7.255. Certificate. VBARC, PO Box 2082, Vero Beach, FL 32961. Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge was the first. www.vbarc.net ARRL Contests

March

5-6 International DX Contest – Phone

ARES Notes

ARES Online Registration and Member Information Form

A new, online ARES Registration Form is now available for use for all (nationwide) current and future ARES Members. All current and future ARES members are requested to complete this online Form as soon as possible. Having this data in a single digital location will allow those in Leadership positions to better understand the strengths and deployment of human resources of the ARES program in the ARRL EM Section.

The online ARES Registration Form is now online at: <http://www.arrl.org/ares-registration-form>

Even if you have completed a paper-based ARES registration form in the past, (FSD-98) we request that you now fill out the information on the Electronic Form, so that your full and updated data is on the record...also...the new items, now included, such as those concerning alternate power abilities as well as which individual training courses you've taken is needed!

Thank you in advance for your continued support of the ARES program...

How's DX By Russ WA2VQV

From January 15th through February 14th:

Russ, WA2VQV worked:

On 40 Meters CW: C6AGU Bahamas, PI4CC, PI4TUE Netherlands.

On 30 Meters CW: 5N7M Nigeria, FO8RZ French Polynesia, S9DX Sao Tome' & Principe, VP9/OH3JR Bermuda, YN7SU Nicaragua.

On 30 Meters PSK31: 9A4A Croatia, IK2DJV Italy.

On 20 Meters CW: 5R8HL Madagascar, C6AGU Bahamas, E73W Bosnia-Herzegovina, HC2SL Ecuador, OM2VL Slovakia, ON4AHQ Belgium, S9DX Sao Tome' & Principe, V44KAI ST. Kitts & Nevis, YO7IV Romania.

On 20 Meters SSB: CU2KG Azores, F/IZ4BBF EU-058 France, J88CF ST. Vincent, PY7CRA/P SA-046 Brazil, S9DX Sao tome' & Principe,

TJ9PF Camaroon, YN2N Nicaragua.

On 20 Meters PSK31: EA8TL Canaries, FG8AR Guadeloupe, HC7AE Ecuador, PT2ZXR Brazil.

On 17 Meters CW: HI3TEJ Dominican Rep., RU3ZX Euro. Russia, V31YN/P NA-180 Belize, VK2GWK Australia, ZB2FK Gibraltar, ZF2LC Caymans.

On 17 Meters SSB: GD6IA Isle of Man, HC2AQ Ecuador, PT2CC Brazil.

On 15 Meters CW: 4O3A Montenegro, HC2SL Ecuador, HK1R Colombia, PV8ADI Brazil.

On 12 Meters CW: S9DX Sao Tome' & Principe.

73 & Good Hunting,
Russ, WA2VQV

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